

St. Stanislaus Bishop and Martyr Roman Catholic Parish

5818 Dubois

Current Name: Promise Land Missionary Baptist Church

Local	✓	12/14/90
State		
State Marker		
National	✓	7/14/89



St. Stanislaus



Historic overview:

St. Stanislaus was the fifth parish established to serve Detroit's Polish community, which is one of the largest in the nation. St. Stanislaus was needed to relieve the overcrowded St. Albertus church, so Bethel Church and school were purchased for the congregation of St. Stanislaus in 1898. However, between 1905-1910 the population of the church doubled. The new buildings comprised an excellent example of a Catholic parish complex of the first fifteen years of this century, anchored by the magnificent Baroque church of 1911-13 with its lavish beaux-arts interior. In 1921 a convent was built for the Felician sisters who ran the school. It was the largest and best equipped Polish parish school in Michigan by the late 1940s.

In the years after World War II the demographics of the parish area changed with increasing rapidity. Young couples and wealthier families moved away; I-94 bisected the parish and displaced families and businesses. Declining enrollment caused the closing of the grade school in 1968, and the high school in 1974, and the convent was demolished. During the late 1970s the church underwent a resurgence. However, by 1989 the parish was suppressed as a part of the Detroit Archdiocesan Reorganization Plan, and the parish ceased to exist.

Edison Schools has rehabilitated the former St. Stanislaus elementary (1900) and high school buildings (1928). Now the Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences, the school opened in the fall of 2001 as a charter school. With almost 1200 students, the school serves grades 6-10. Promise Land Missionary Baptist Church now resides in the former St. Stanislaus church.

